

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. – 43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) A method for granting a prepaid license on a machine, comprising:

examining licensing information on a designated machine, the licensing information including information on a prepaid use of software, including a number of prepaid uses of the software and unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

comparing information identifying a machine to the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

determining a number of uses of the software on the machine and comparing the number of uses to the number of prepaid uses;

granting the license for use of the software on the machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses;

entering into a stored file[[,]] the date, time of day and identity of the designated machine for each use of the software; and

examining validity of the software license during each shut-down of the machine by comparing the date, time of day and the identity of the designated machine for each

use of the software with the stored file.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising:
prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine
using the software, with respect to the license, upon the number of uses being
determined to be at least equal to the number of prepaid uses.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine
using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison
does not match.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to
be examined is encrypted.

49. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to
be examined is stored and encrypted.

50. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the machine is a medical device.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a number of uses of the software remaining.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a number of uses of the software remaining and indicating the
number of remaining uses on the machine.
53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a number of uses of the software remaining and providing an
indication on the machine upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds
a threshold.
54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes a visual
indication.
55. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes an audible
indication.
56. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes a visual
indication.
57. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes an audible
indication.
58. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the indication includes an audible
indication.
59. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the indication includes an audible
indication.

60. – 79. (Cancelled)

80. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the information is a software option.

81. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.

82. – 104. (Cancelled)

<End of Claims Listing>